petroleum products during the current year with the demand during the year 2001-02 is given below:

(Figs. in TMT*)

Products	2001-02	2002-03 (Estimated)	%Growth
LPG	7,728	8,641	11.8
Petrol	7,011	7,612	8.6
Naphtha/Natural Gas Liquid	11,755	11,004	-6.4
ATF	2,263	2,285	1.0
Kerosene	10,432	10,805	3.6
Diesel	36,546	36,684	0.4
Light Diesel Oil	1,592	1,962	23.2
Lubes	1,137	1,397	22.9
Furnace Oil/Low Sulphur Heavy Stock	12,982	12,743	-1.8
Bitumen	2,584	3,045	17.8
Others**	6,402	7,111	11.1
TOTAL	1,00,432	1,03,289	2.8

*Thousand Metric Tonnes.

**Include products like Propylene, Solvents, Reformate, Mineral Turpentine Oil, Carbon Black Feed Stock, Raw and Calcined Petroleum Coke, Waxes, Sulphur, etc.

Meeting on linking the Ganga and the Cauvery rivers

*9. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh has urged the Central Government to convene a meeting of all States to discuss and arrive at a consensus on the ambitious project of linking the Ganga and the Cauvery rivers; and

(b) if so, what is States' response in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI) (a) and (b) The Ministry of Water Resources, then

known as the Ministry of Irrigation, formulated a National Perspective Plan for water resources development in 1980 which envisages inter linkages among Peninsular Rivers and Himalayan Rivers for transferring water from water surplus basins to water deficit areas for optimum utilisation of water resources. Under the Peninsular component, interlinking of Mahanadi-Godavari-Krishna-Pennar-Cauvery and Vaigai and under Himalayan Component linking of tributaries of Brahamaputra with Ganga at Farakka and Mahanadi is envisaged. The Government of India has established the National Water Development Agency (NWDA) in 1982 as an autonomous society to carryout water balance and other studies and prepare feasibility reports. NWDA has identified 30 links under the National Perspective for preparation of the feasibility reports and has completed feasibility reports of 6 links under Peninsular Component. An audio visual presentation on National Perspective Plan was made to the Prime Minister on 5th October, 2002, wherein Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh besides other senior Ministers of Union Government was also present. The Central Government has set up a Task Force on 13.12.2002 with a view to bringing about a consensus among the States and provide guidance on norms of appraisal of individual projects and modalities for project funding etc.

The Terms of Reference of the Task Force are:

(i) Provide guidance on norms of appraisal of individual projects in respect of economic viability, socio-economic impacts, environmental impacts and preparation of resettlement plans;

(ii) Devise suitable mechanism for bringing about speedy consensus amongst the States;

(iii) Prioritize the different project components for preparation of Detailed Project Reports and implementation;

(iv) Propose suitable organizational structure for implementing the project;

(v) Consider various modalities for project funding; and

(vi) Consider international dimensions that may be involved in some project components.